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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/593,616

09/21/2006

Sotaro Narita

08295.0004

1632

22852

7590

04/09/2009

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EXAMINER

BRAINARD, TIMOTHY A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3662

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/09/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/593,616	Applicant(s) NARITA ET AL.	
	Examiner TIMOTHY A. BRAINARD	Art Unit 3662	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 January 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 8-13, 15, 17 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8-13, 15, 17 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 September 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 1) The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

- 2) Claims 15 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Sakamoto** et al (US 20050088336) in view of **Volkov** et al (US 6777684).

Sakamoto teaches a test method for testing a collision prediction or a component thereof by using a testing apparatus comprising mounting a radar on a vehicle (para 27), providing an object spaced away from the radar with a reflective plate (para 12).

Sakamoto does not teach providing a dummy object with a reflection plate attached to the dummy object; wherein the reflection plate has a first amount of reflection, and the dummy object has a second amount of reflection, and wherein the second amount of reflection is less than the first amount of reflection. **Volkov** teaches providing a dummy object with a reflection plate attached to the dummy object; wherein the reflection plate has a first amount of reflection, and the dummy object has a second amount of reflection, and wherein the second amount of reflection is less than the first amount of reflection (col 1, lines 50-60). It would have been obvious to modify **Sakamoto** to include providing a dummy object with a reflection plate attached to the dummy object; wherein the reflection plate has a first amount of reflection, and the dummy object has a second amount of reflection, and wherein the

Art Unit: 3662

second amount of reflection is less than the first amount of reflection because it is one of multiple design choices with no new or unexpected results.

- 3) Claims 8-9 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Sakamoto** in view of **Volkov** as applied to claim 18 above, and further in view of Menache (US 2004/0017313). Menache teaches (claim 8) plural reflection plates are provided (fig 1), (claim 9 and 16) the reflection plate is displaced relative to the collision prediction apparatus (para 10 and 17) the reflection area of the reflection plate is changed with time (para 171), (claim 12) the dummy object is formed into a human (fig 1), (claim 13) the dummy object is covered with a cloth (fig 1). It would have been obvious to modify **Sakamoto** in view of **Volkov** to include plural reflection plates are provided, the reflection plate is displaced relative to the collision prediction apparatus, the reflection area of the reflection plate is changed with time, the dummy object is formed into a human, and the dummy object is covered with a cloth because each is one of multiple design choices with no new or unexpected results.
- 4) Claims 10-11 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Sakamoto** in view of **Volkov** as applied to claim 15 and 18 above, and further in view of **Aksyuk** et al (US 2004024588). **Aksyuk** teaches a reflection plate is deformable, and a drive apparatus for deforming the reflection plate is attached to the dummy object (para 19). It would have been obvious to modify **Sakamoto** in view of **Volkov** to include a reflection plate is deformable, and a drive apparatus for deforming the reflection plate is attached to the dummy object because it is one of multiple design choices with no new or unexpected results.

Response to Arguments

- 5) Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 8-13, 15, and 17-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

- 6) Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TIMOTHY A. BRAINARD whose telephone number is (571) 272-2132. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00 - 5:00.

Art Unit: 3662

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Tarcza can be reached on (571) 272-6979. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/T. A. B./
Examiner, Art Unit 3662

/Thomas H. Tarcza/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3662